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New Mexico Labor Market Review

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New Mexico Department of LABOR

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According to estimates based largely on the U.S. Department of Labor's household survey, New Mexico's unemployment rate was 7.3 percent in February, up slightly from January's rate of 7.1 percent but down from 8.4 percent one year ago. Nationally, the unemployment rate (not seasonally adjusted) stood at 5.6 percent this February, down from 6.0 percent in January and 6.2 percent in February 1988. New Mexico and the nation are continuing to experience historically low unemployment rates. As reported by Secretary Paul M. Garcia, New Mexico's latest jobless rate is the lowest February rate since 1980, and the nation's unemployment rate in February is the lowest for that month since 1973.

Our employment series based on a monthly employer survey and covering only nonagricultural wage and salary employment showed job gains in New Mexico of 4,900 in February. As expected this time of year, seasonal increases were reported in both services and government; however, partially offsetting job declines were posted in trade, mining, construction, and manufacturing. The employment declines were the result of normal reductions such as continued post-holiday furloughs and weather-related layoffs. The job gains in services and government were caused by schools and universities returning to full schedules after holiday and semester breaks.

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment in New Mexico has grown by 13,300, or 2.5 percent, over the last twelve months. Services, trade, and manufacturing continue to report job growth above three percent, followed by two percent growth in finance, insurance & real estate and government. Mining employment is unchanged from 1988 levels, while both construction and transportation & utilities are reporting fewer workers now than one year ago. Public Service Company of New Mexico's large employment cutback late last year, along with declines in railroad employment, were responsible for much of the loss in transportation & utilities, while the construction employment decline is a continuation of the three-year-long employment downturn in the industry.

	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
	Feb. 1989	Jan. 1989	Feb. 1988	Jan. 1989	Feb. 1988
Civilian Labor Force	691,300	673,000	673,700	+18,300	+17,600
Employment	640,500	625,100	617,100	+15,400	+23,400
Unemployment	50,800	47,900	56,600	+2,900	-5,800
Rate	7.3%	7.1%	8.4%		

ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT (JOBS)
(Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

NEW MEXICO	PRELIM FEB 1989	REVISED JAN 1989	REVISED FEB 1988	FEB CHANGE FROM JAN 1989	FEB CHANGE FROM FEB 1988
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/	543,700	538,800	530,400	4,900	13,300
MINING	15,100	15,400	15,100	-300	0
Metal Mining	2,000	2,000	1,900	0	100
Bituminous Coal, Quarrying etc	4,100	4,100	4,100	0	0
Oil & Gas Extraction	9,000	9,300	9,100	-300	-100
CONSTRUCTION	27,600	27,900	28,300	-300	-700
MANUFACTURING	39,900	40,100	38,700	-200	1,200
DURABLE GOODS	27,400	27,300	26,300	100	1,100
Lumber & Wood Products	2,400	2,400	2,400	0	0
Machinery(except electric)	2,700	2,700	2,600	0	100
Elec & Electronic Equip	5,700	5,700	5,200	0	500
Transportation Equipment	5,400	5,400	4,900	0	500
Other Durable Goods	11,200	11,100	11,200	100	0
NONDURABLE GOODS	12,500	12,800	12,400	-300	100
Food & Kindred Products	3,400	3,700	3,500	-300	-100
Textile & Apparel	2,600	2,600	2,600	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	6,500	6,500	6,300	0	200
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	28,500	28,400	29,000	100	-500
TRANSPORTATION	13,500	13,500	13,300	0	200
Railroad Transportation	1,900	1,900	2,100	0	-200
Trucking & Warehousing	6,700	6,700	6,400	0	300
Other Transportation	4,900	4,900	4,800	0	100
COMMUNICATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	15,000	14,900	15,700	100	-700
Communication	6,600	6,600	6,600	0	0
Elec, Gas, & Sanitary Services	8,400	8,300	9,100	100	-700
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	129,900	131,000	125,400	-1,100	4,500
WHOLESALE TRADE	23,000	23,100	22,900	-100	100
Durable Goods	13,200	13,300	13,200	-100	0
Nondurable Goods	9,800	9,800	9,700	0	100
RETAIL TRADE	106,900	107,900	102,500	-1,000	4,400
Bldg Material & Mobile Homes	4,100	4,100	4,000	0	100
General Merchandise Stores	12,000	12,800	11,700	-800	300
Food Stores	14,700	14,800	14,400	-100	300
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	13,700	13,700	13,300	0	400
Apparel & Accessories	5,300	5,600	5,400	-300	-100
Furniture & Furnishing	4,400	4,400	4,300	0	100
Eating & Drinking Places	40,500	40,200	37,800	300	2,700
Miscellaneous Retail	12,200	12,300	11,600	-100	600
FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE	27,100	27,000	26,400	100	700
Banking	7,800	7,800	8,100	0	-300
Insurance Carriers	4,200	4,100	3,900	100	300
Insur Agents, Brokers & Service	3,000	3,000	2,900	0	100
Real Estate	6,200	6,200	5,800	0	400
Other Fin, Ins & Real Estate	5,900	5,900	5,700	0	200
SERVICES	130,000	129,600	125,300	400	4,700
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	10,900	11,000	10,800	-100	100
Personal Services	6,500	6,400	6,200	100	300
Business Services	32,200	32,100	30,800	100	1,400
Health Services	31,800	31,900	31,100	-100	700
Legal Services	4,500	4,500	4,400	0	100
Educational Services	6,000	5,700	5,500	300	500
Social Services	7,800	7,800	7,500	0	300
Membership Organizations	5,800	5,900	6,100	-100	-300
Other Services	24,500	24,300	22,900	200	1,600
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	145,600	139,400	142,200	6,200	3,400
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	30,300	29,700	29,600	600	700
STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT	115,300	109,700	112,600	5,600	2,700
State Government 2/	51,200	46,800	50,700	4,400	500
Universities	23,600	19,400	22,000	4,200	1,600
Local Government	127,000	126,100	122,900	900	4,100
Schools	39,900	39,000	37,700	900	2,200

1/ Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded.
2/ Includes employees of Los Alamos National Laboratory.

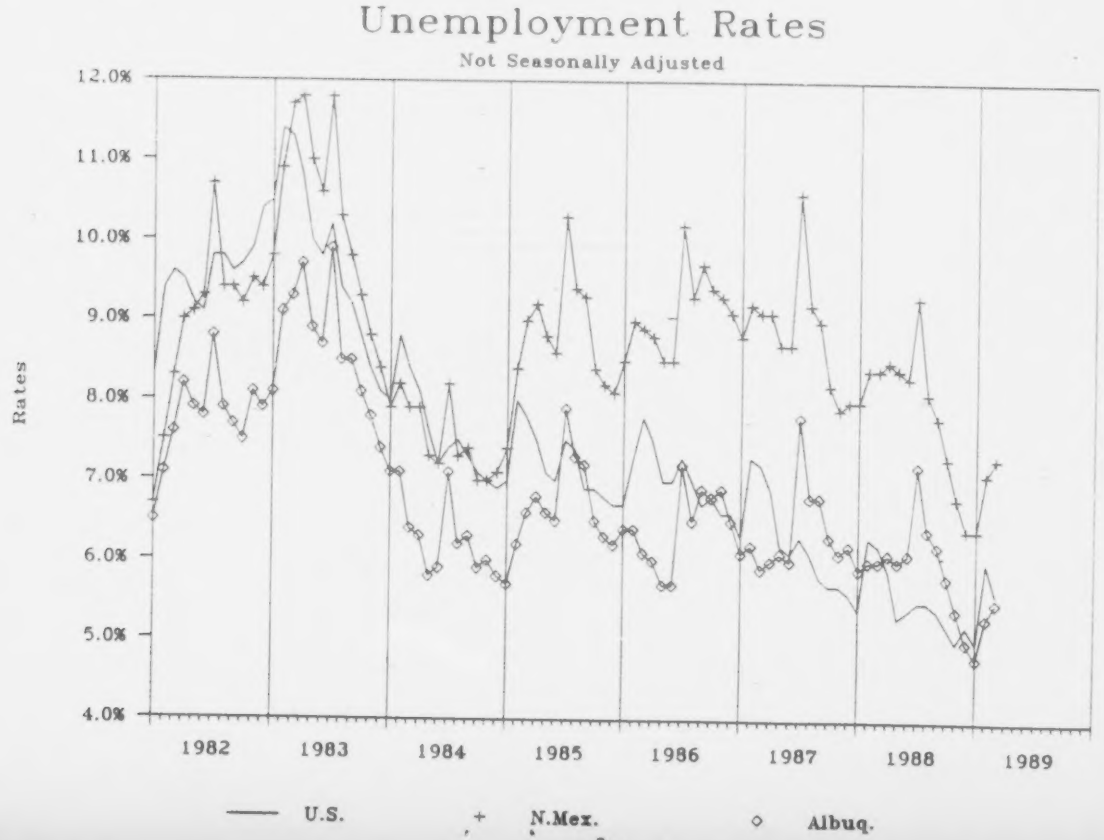
ALBUQUERQUE AREA (BERNALILLO COUNTY)

According to official U.S. Department of Labor estimates, Bernalillo County's jobless rate stood at 5.5 percent in February, up slightly from January's 5.3 percent but down by half of a percentage point from one year ago. Albuquerque's unemployment rate was virtually identical to the national average of 5.6 percent in February, and significantly lower than the statewide rate of 7.3 percent.

Approximately 2,200 jobs were added to nonagricultural payroll employment during February, according to our monthly survey of employers in the area. Seasonal job gains were posted in government and the services industry. Partially offsetting job losses occurred in trade, the result both of continued post-holiday layoffs at retail stores and the closure of a major retail facility.

Albuquerque's economy has generated 5,600 nonagricultural payroll jobs over the last year, representing a 2.4 percent gain. All major industries contributed to the job growth; however, the fastest growing sectors were trade, up by 1,900 or 3.3 percent, and services, with 1,800 or 2.8 percent gains. Even construction, which has been in an employment slump in recent years, is now reporting a small 100 annual gain in employment. Unfortunately, one weak element of Bernalillo County's economy continues to be manufacturing. The industry is reporting very little job growth, up by only 100 or 0.5 percent from February 1988. This is in contrast to the rather healthy manufacturing gain of 1,200 jobs or 3.1 percent growth experienced statewide over the same period.

	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
	Feb. 1989	Jan. 1989	Feb. 1988	Jan. 1989	Feb. 1988
Civilian Labor Force	265,400	257,900	259,200	+7,500	+6,200
Employment	250,900	244,300	243,700	+6,600	+7,200
Unemployment	14,500	13,600	15,500	+ 900	-1,000
Rate	5.5%	5.3%	6.0%		



ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT (JOBS)
(Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

ALBUQUERQUE MSA (BERNALILLO COUNTY)	PRELIM FEB 1989	REVISED JAN 1989	REVISED FEB 1988	FEB CHANGE FROM JAN 1989	FEB CHANGE FROM FEB 1988
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/	236,900	234,700	231,300	2,200	5,600
MINING	100	100	200	0	-100
CONSTRUCTION	14,000	14,000	13,900	0	100
MANUFACTURING	20,300	20,400	20,200	-100	100
Durable Goods	14,700	14,700	14,700	0	0
Nondurable Goods	5,600	5,700	5,500	-100	100
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	12,600	12,600	12,500	0	100
Transportation	6,800	6,800	6,400	0	400
Communication	3,600	3,600	3,700	0	-100
Elec, Gas, & Sanitary Services	2,200	2,200	2,400	0	-200
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	60,300	61,000	58,400	-700	1,900
WHOLESALE TRADE	14,200	14,200	14,200	0	0
Durable Goods	9,400	9,400	9,400	0	0
Nondurable Goods	4,800	4,800	4,800	0	0
RETAIL TRADE	46,100	46,800	44,200	-700	1,900
General Merchandise Stores	4,800	5,200	4,700	-400	100
Food Stores	5,300	5,400	5,000	-100	300
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	5,000	5,000	4,800	0	200
Eating & Drinking Places	18,200	18,200	17,100	0	1,100
Other Retail Trade	12,800	13,000	12,600	-200	200
FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE	15,000	15,000	14,600	0	400
Banking	3,300	3,300	3,300	0	0
Ins Carriers, Agents & Brokers	4,600	4,600	4,400	0	200
Other Fin, Ins & Real Estate	7,100	7,100	6,900	0	200
SERVICES	66,400	65,900	64,600	500	1,800
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	3,500	3,500	3,500	0	0
Personal Services	3,300	3,300	3,200	0	100
Business Services	21,900	21,800	21,300	100	600
Health Services	15,000	15,000	14,800	0	200
Social Services	3,300	3,300	3,100	0	200
Membership Organizations	2,000	1,900	1,900	100	100
Other Services	17,400	17,100	16,800	300	600
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	48,200	45,700	46,900	2,500	1,300
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	13,500	13,100	13,400	400	100
STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT	34,700	32,600	33,500	2,100	1,200
State Government	13,300	11,400	12,900	1,900	400
Local Government	21,400	21,200	20,600	200	800

1/ Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded.

ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT (JOBS)
(Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

LAS CRUCES MSA (DONA ANA COUNTY) 1/	PRELIM FEB 1989	REVISED JAN 1989	REVISED FEB 1988	FEB CHANGE FROM JAN 1989	FEB CHANGE FROM FEB 1988
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 2/	41,100	40,450	39,950	650	1,150
MINING	50	50	50	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	2,200	2,100	2,000	100	200
MANUFACTURING	3,200	3,500	3,550	-300	-350
Durable Goods	1,500	1,500	1,650	0	-150
Nondurable Goods	1,700	2,000	1,900	-300	-200
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	1,350	1,400	1,400	-50	-50
Transportation	500	500	550	0	-50
Comm, Elec, Gas & Sanitary Svs	850	900	850	-50	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	8,900	8,800	8,350	100	550
WHOLESALE TRADE	950	950	900	0	50
RETAIL TRADE	7,950	7,850	7,450	100	500
General Merchandise Stores	850	900	900	-50	-50
Food Stores	1,150	1,150	1,050	0	100
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	1,050	1,050	950	0	100
Eating & Drinking Places	3,100	3,000	2,900	100	200
Other Retail Trade	1,800	1,750	1,650	50	150
FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE	1,700	1,700	1,600	0	100
SERVICES	6,700	6,700	6,300	0	400
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	650	650	700	0	-50
Business Services	1,400	1,400	1,200	0	200
Health Services	1,750	1,750	1,750	0	0
Social Services	300	300	250	0	50
Other Services	2,600	2,600	2,400	0	200
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	17,000	16,200	16,700	800	300
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	4,200	4,200	4,200	0	0
STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT	12,800	12,000	12,500	800	300
State Government	7,100	6,300	7,000	800	100
Local Government	5,700	5,700	5,500	0	200

SANTA FE MSA (SANTA FE & LOS ALAMOS COUNTIES) 1/	PRELIM FEB 1989	REVISED JAN 1989	REVISED FEB 1988	FEB CHANGE FROM JAN 1989	FEB CHANGE FROM FEB 1988
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 2/	54,550	54,600	53,750	-50	800
MINING	50	100	50	-50	0
CONSTRUCTION	2,200	2,200	2,200	0	0
MANUFACTURING	1,650	1,650	1,550	0	100
Durable Goods	1,050	1,050	950	0	100
Nondurable Goods	600	600	600	0	0
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	1,100	1,100	1,200	0	-100
Transportation	450	450	450	0	0
Comm, Elec, Gas & Sanitary Svs	650	650	750	0	-100
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	10,650	10,800	10,150	-150	500
WHOLESALE TRADE	850	850	800	0	50
RETAIL TRADE	9,800	9,950	9,350	-150	450
General Merchandise Stores	900	1,000	1,000	-100	-100
Food Stores	1,250	1,200	1,150	50	100
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	850	850	800	0	50
Eating & Drinking Places	4,300	4,300	3,900	0	400
Other Retail Trade	2,500	2,600	2,500	-100	0
FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE	1,900	1,900	1,950	0	-50
SERVICES	14,550	14,500	14,350	50	200
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	1,800	1,850	1,750	-50	50
Business Services	3,300	3,400	3,200	-100	100
Health Services	3,500	3,500	3,400	0	100
Social Services	750	750	700	0	50
Other Services	5,200	5,000	5,300	200	-100
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	22,450	22,350	22,300	100	150
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	1,550	1,550	1,500	0	50
STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT	20,900	20,800	20,800	100	100
State Government 3/	16,700	16,600	16,600	100	100
Local Government	4,200	4,200	4,200	0	0

1/ In accordance with the CES Manual, those published cells with less than 2,000 employees are rounded to nearest 50. Those published cells with more than 2,000 employees are rounded to 100.
2/ Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded.
3/ Includes employees of Los Alamos National Laboratory.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS

Hours and Earnings of Production, Construction and Nonsupervisory Employees
(Prepared in cooperation with the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
NEW MEXICO	FEB 1989	JAN 1989	FEB 1988	FEB 1989	JAN 1989	FEB 1988	FEB 1989	JAN 1989	FEB 1988
MINING	$512.10	$522.46	$501.95	41.6	42.1	43.8	12.31	12.41	11.46
CONSTRUCTION	$416.30	$433.82	$414.76	39.2	39.8	36.9	10.62	10.90	11.24
MANUFACTURING	$355.77	$354.64	$354.55	40.2	40.3	40.8	8.85	8.80	8.69
Durable Goods	$372.60	$378.14	$373.98	40.9	41.6	41.6	9.11	9.09	8.99
Nondurable Goods	$312.58	$296.80	$305.36	38.4	37.1	38.8	8.14	8.00	7.87
COMMUNICATION & UTILITIES	$589.54	$579.85	$573.18	41.4	41.3	41.0	14.24	14.04	13.98
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	$203.90	$209.30	$218.47	30.8	30.6	31.8	6.62	6.84	6.87
Wholesale Trade	$351.90	$366.67	$387.09	39.1	39.3	39.1	9.00	9.33	9.90
Retail Trade	$178.41	$178.60	$184.53	29.2	28.9	30.3	6.11	6.18	6.09
BANKING	$245.52	$242.22	$223.20	37.2	36.7	37.2	6.60	6.60	6.00
ALBUQUERQUE MSA	FEB 1989	JAN 1989	FEB 1988	FEB 1989	JAN 1989	FEB 1988	FEB 1989	JAN 1989	FEB 1988
MANUFACTURING	$374.62	$376.44	$374.91	39.6	39.5	40.4	9.46	9.53	9.28
Durable Goods	$396.73	$398.34	$399.10	40.4	40.4	41.4	9.82	9.86	9.64
Nondurable Goods	$305.99	$309.38	$297.60	37.0	36.7	37.2	8.27	8.43	8.00

NOTE: Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded. The average earnings are "gross" reflecting not only changes in basic hourly and incentive wage rates but also such factors as premium pay for overtime and shift differentials. The work week information relates to the average hours for which pay was received, and is different from standard or scheduled hours due to absenteeism, labor turnover, part time work, overtime work etc.

U.S. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

Historical data for the CPI series are available from the U.S. Department of Labor by writing to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, 525 Griffin St., Rm. 221, Dallas, TX 75202, or by calling (214) 767-6970.

	Feb. 1989	Jan.1989	Feb. 1988	Percent Change Jan'89-Feb.'89	Percent Change Feb.'88-Feb.'89
CPI-U	121.6	121.1	116.0	+0.4%	+4.8%
CPI-W	120.2	119.7	114.7	+0.4%	+4.8%

Index Base Year 1982-84 = 100

CPI-U - All Urban Consumers
CPI-W - Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Area Economic Activity

Statewide: The U.S. Department of Commerce plans to open Census Bureau district offices in Albuquerque, Las Cruces, and Santa Fe late this year. The Census Bureau offices will prepare for the 1990 population count. They will be hiring more than 1,600 census-takers by early 1990. Summer-like conditions are bringing ski season in New Mexico slowly to an end. Sandia Peak Ski area closed in mid-March. Taos Ski Valley plans to close in early April. Angel Fire Ski area plans to close in early April and Red River Ski Resort in the latter part of March. Approximately 800 seasonal workers will lose their jobs.

Albuquerque Area: ABQ Corporation, owner of New Mexico's largest savings and loan association, plans to cut about 180 positions company-wide. The 180 jobs represent about 23 percent of the company's work force. Olympus Corporation, an electronics manufacturer, broke ground in Rio Rancho for New Mexico's first Japanese-owned manufacturing plant. The electronics manufacturing plant is expected to employ as many as 300 workers eventually. The Rio Rancho plant will begin operations in October with an estimated 125 employees and will add between 75 to 175 positions when the plant is operating at full capacity. The Rio Rancho manufacturing plant, the company's 25th U.S. branch operation, will be the firm's sole location for the assembling of fiberoptic instruments used in medical diagnosis and treatment. Wal-Mart Discount City announced plans to open its sixth Albuquerque store at the corner of Coors Road and NM 528 by this summer. Wal-Mart, which will employ about 200 persons, will be an anchor store in the new Riverwalk Marketplace Shopping Center. Rascals restaurant and lounge reopened at the end of the month under new management. The restaurant, located on Wyoming N.E., employs 125 people. Office Club, an office supplies retailer, is presently negotiating for a site on Alexander Blvd. N.E. in the Renaissance Center. Office Club plans to enter the Albuquerque market in 1989. JC Penney has opened a Catalog Sales Center at the Four Hills Shopping Center. The Catalog Sales Center will offer shop-at-home telephone service. Orders may be picked up at the sales center or delivered to the home. Teriyaki House Restaurant opened in March on San Pedro N.E.

Belen Area: A new Wal-Mart store will open in Belen by the end of the year. Groundbreaking is scheduled for the spring with hopes for completion by early fall. The new Wal-Mart will employ about 155 full and part-time workers.

Clovis Area: Gold Star Dairy opened in February with 24 employees. The firm produces fluid milk and flavored drinks and will be adding purified water and bagged ice later.

Espanola Area: The Espanola City Council approved the engineering firm of Leedshill-Herkenhoff as consultants for a study aimed at finding a site for a new airport. Construction to widen and align a 4-mile portion of U.S. 84, south of Abiquiu, will begin next month.

Farmington Area: Crownpoint Shopping Center opened this month. The largest store in the new center is Basha's supermarket, which employs about 45 people. Amoco Production Co. is transferring 41 workers to San Juan County in early March. Albertson's grocery chain will be re-opening in San Juan Plaza North five years after closing. Construction crews are preparing to pave La Plata Highway, north of Farmington. The project is expected to be completed by September. Burnette Construction Company of Colorado has been contracted for work on the first section beginning in mid-March.

Hobbs Area: Wendy's, in the Broadmoor Shopping Center, is expected to reopen under new management in about 30 days. Chapparal Builders of Hobbs was awarded the contract for construction of a middle school. The cost of the project will be $2 million. The College of the Southwest announced that it is setting up a Center for Business Development. The center will help strengthen existing businesses and attract new industry to Lea County. Texaco announced that its company's restructuring plan will affect New Mexico. The Hobbs District Office will be closed, affecting 65 district office employees.

Las Cruces Area: Stahmann Farms, one of the largest pecan farms in the world, has shut down two pecan processing plants and dismissed about 150 employees. By mid-April, approximately 300

of Stahmann Farms' 400 employees will be out of work.

Las Vegas Area: Montana de Fibra fiberboard plant, north of Las Vegas, has been sold to Medite Corporation. Medite officials have said that initially the plant, which employs an estimated 200 employees, will experience little change. Montana de Fibra fiberboard plant was sold as another step in PNM's restructuring project. New Mexico Highlands University has been awarded a three-year, $1 million grant from the U.S. Department of Energy to enhance the quality of science and technology programs.

Lovington Area: Navajo Refinery of Artesia has purchased the Famariss Refinery near Lovington from Southern Union Company. The Famariss Refinery employed approximately 90 workers when it closed in 1984. Navajo has not announced its plans for the facility.

Moriarty Area: The City of Moriarty received a grant of $350,000 from the state Economic Development and Tourism Department for the development of the Moriarty Industrial Park.

Portales Area: Eastern New Mexico University regents have announced plans to construct a $4.6 million theater on the Portales campus. John C. Cornell Inc. of Roswell will build the complex.

Raton Area: La Mesa Park will begin gearing up for the 1989 horse racing season in March as the barns open for training. Horse racing will begin in mid-May. The track is expected to employ a minimum of 175 people. The Tavern restaurant and bar will reopen in Angel Fire Village in mid-March under new ownership.

Roswell Area: New Mexico Broadcasting Company, owner of KGGM television, purchased KBIM television. The sale is expected to be finalized by the Federal Communications Commission within 90 days.

Ruidoso Area: The Ruidoso Downs is halfway into a $2 million off-season project. Ruidoso Downs has employed six local contractors and an average labor force of 50 this winter. Improvements will be finished by April. Opening race day for the track is in mid-May.

Santa Fe Area: A new Santa Fe Imaging Center opened this month. The center, with a staff of 13 full-time employees, does medical diagnostic imaging and is owned by 35 area physicians, along with St. Vincent Hospital. Allsup's Convenience Store plans to build an adobe-style store and gas station at the intersection of Cerrillos Road and Guadalupe Street. Allsup's hopes to open the store this summer. The Santa Fe Railroad took the first step toward abandoning the 18-mile spur linking Santa Fe with the main rail line at Lamy. Susan Metcalf, manager of public affairs for the Chicago-based railroad, stated that there would be no major job losses. The Santa Fe New Mexican daily newspaper has laid off 15 employees. Integrated Financial and Insurance Services, Inc. , a newly formed corporation, opened for business. The insurance and financial services agency is headquartered in Santa Fe with an office in Albuquerque. St. John's College raised the $2.8 million needed to build a library on the Santa Fe campus. The groundbreaking ceremony is scheduled to be held in May. Construction is expected to begin in September and be completed by fall 1990.

Silver City Area Construction has begun for the new Wal-mart store. The grand opening is scheduled for this fall. Klinger Constructors inc. of Albuquerque has been named general contractor for the project. The store will employ approximately 120 area residents when open.

Socorro Area: The Defense Nuclear Agency (DNA) gave final approval for development of the Large Blast/Thermal Simulator (LB/TS) at the White Sands Missile Range Stallion Site. Construction of the LB/TS is expecting to employ approximately 110 workers with peak employment of up to 200 people. The 2-year construction project will begin in 1991. The estimated cost of the project is $73.6 million. Boar Contractor's Inc. received a $7.9 million contract from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation for work on a low-flow conveyance channel near Socorro.

Taos Area: The new Holiday Inn will open in early May. Approximately 55 people will be hired to staff the facility.

NEW MEXICO LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES 1/

	PRELIMINARY FEBRUARY 1989				REVISED JANUARY 1989				REVISED FEBRUARY 1988			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
STATEWIDE	691,284	640,511	50,773	7.3%	673,009	625,073	47,936	7.1%	673,755	617,120	56,635	8.4%
ALBUQUERQUE MSA 2/	265,387	250,934	14,453	5.4%	257,819	244,262	13,557	5.3%	259,150	243,666	15,484	6.0%
LAS CRUCES MSA 3/	55,292	51,357	3,935	7.1%	53,635	50,226	3,409	6.4%	53,802	49,904	3,898	7.2%
SANTA FE MSA 4/	65,245	62,095	3,150	4.8%	64,287	61,175	3,112	4.8%	64,677	60,926	3,751	5.8%
Catron	1,184	978	206	17.4%	1,119	954	165	14.7%	1,119	888	231	20.6%
Chaves	24,048	22,685	1,363	5.7%	23,463	22,206	1,257	5.4%	22,580	20,964	1,616	7.2%
Cibola	9,511	8,432	1,079	11.3%	9,197	8,219	978	10.6%	9,361	8,115	1,246	13.3%
Colfax	6,440	5,412	1,028	16.0%	6,326	5,298	1,028	16.3%	6,206	5,472	734	11.8%
Curry	16,571	15,426	1,145	6.9%	16,253	15,049	1,204	7.4%	16,165	14,772	1,393	8.6%
De Baca	946	847	99	10.5%	900	811	89	9.9%	832	737	95	11.4%
Eddy	20,595	18,797	1,798	8.7%	19,991	18,223	1,768	8.8%	19,617	17,649	1,968	10.0%
Grant	10,404	9,403	1,001	9.6%	10,066	9,134	932	9.3%	10,309	9,393	916	8.9%
Guadalupe	1,735	1,445	290	16.7%	1,691	1,415	276	16.3%	1,602	1,278	324	20.2%
Harding	429	363	66	15.4%	417	350	67	16.1%	391	311	80	20.5%
Hidalgo	2,683	2,523	160	6.0%	2,543	2,407	136	5.3%	2,512	2,351	161	6.4%
Lea	23,257	21,498	1,759	7.6%	22,772	20,984	1,788	7.9%	22,350	20,446	1,904	8.5%
Lincoln	6,506	6,040	466	7.2%	6,423	5,951	472	7.3%	6,123	5,545	578	9.4%
Luna	6,199	5,385	814	13.1%	5,935	5,226	709	11.9%	5,981	5,071	910	15.2%
McKinley	18,317	16,303	2,014	11.0%	17,823	15,973	1,850	10.4%	17,707	15,345	2,362	13.3%
Mora	1,222	803	419	34.3%	1,136	777	359	31.6%	1,330	868	462	34.7%
Otero	19,165	17,650	1,515	7.9%	18,817	17,286	1,531	8.1%	18,371	16,665	1,706	9.3%
Quay	4,809	4,529	280	5.8%	4,739	4,436	303	6.4%	4,519	4,088	431	9.5%
Rio Arriba	13,854	11,406	2,448	17.7%	13,341	11,134	2,207	16.5%	14,122	11,244	2,878	20.4%
Roosevelt	7,458	7,086	372	5.0%	6,706	6,329	377	5.6%	7,199	6,731	468	6.5%
Sandoval	27,310	25,409	1,901	7.0%	27,190	25,344	1,846	6.8%	26,209	24,111	2,098	8.0%
San Juan	32,417	28,934	3,483	10.7%	31,542	28,169	3,373	10.7%	32,774	28,371	4,403	13.4%
San Miguel	9,732	8,602	1,130	11.6%	9,290	8,213	1,077	11.6%	9,590	8,267	1,323	13.8%
Sierra	2,608	2,479	129	4.9%	2,513	2,404	109	4.3%	2,379	2,216	163	6.9%
Socorro	6,143	5,640	503	8.2%	5,904	5,481	423	7.2%	6,106	5,464	642	10.5%
Taos	10,187	8,331	1,856	18.2%	10,044	8,317	1,727	17.2%	10,314	7,919	2,395	23.2%
Torrance	3,564	3,200	364	10.2%	3,433	3,090	343	10.0%	3,376	2,941	435	12.9%
Union	2,113	1,955	158	7.5%	2,006	1,868	138	6.9%	1,874	1,728	146	7.8%
Valencia	15,953	14,564	1,389	8.7%	15,688	14,362	1,326	8.5%	15,108	13,674	1,434	9.5%

1/ All estimates are made in strict accordance with methodology provided by the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

2/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Bernalillo County

3/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Dona Ana County

4/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Santa Fe and Los Alamos Counties

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